



# Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture  
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Week Ending July 4, 2010

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*This report can be found on the Internet at [www.nass.usda.gov/pa](http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa) and click on "Pennsylvania Publications."*

**Excellent Week for Field Work:** The severely hot temperatures, humidity levels, and drought like conditions this week have harmfully affected most of the crops. The hot and dry conditions were great for the making of dry hay in most areas. Pennsylvania had a total of 6 days suitable for field work. Primary field activities were haymaking, straw baling and the harvesting of winter wheat and barley.

### PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending July 3, 2010

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
28	34	31	7

**Crop Progress:** The average corn silked is 14%, compared to last year's 1% and the 5 year average of 3%. The average corn height is 47 inches tall, compared to last year's 34 inches, and the 5 year average of 39 inches. The barley harvest is 96% complete, ahead of last year's estimate of 80% and the average of 77%. Winter wheat is 99% yellow, compared to last year's 94%, and the average of 96%. Winter wheat is 80% ripe, ahead of the 62% average and last year's 61%. The wheat harvest has begun at 58% harvested, well ahead of both last year's estimate of 13% and the average of 17%. Oats are 97% headed, which is ahead of both last year's 90%, and the average of 88%. Oats are 24% yellowed, which is also ahead of last year's 7% and the average of 14%. Ripe Oats are at 1%, equal to the 5 year average. Alfalfa second cutting is 75%, compared to 42% last year and the 43% average. Alfalfa third cutting is at 7% well ahead of last year's 1% and the 2% average. The Timothy/Clover first cutting is 92% complete, compared to 86% last year, and the average of 85%. Timothy/Clover second cutting is at 10% with 7% last year and still above the 8% average.

**Crop Condition:** State-wide corn condition is 2% very poor, 12% poor, 28% fair, 46% good, and 12% excellent. Wheat condition is 1% very poor, 10% fair, 59% good, and 30% excellent. Oat condition is 4% poor, 18% fair, 57% good, and 21% excellent. Soybean conditions are; 1% very poor, 7% poor, 28% fair, 55% good, and 9% excellent. Alfalfa stand conditions are; 4% poor, 25% fair, 53% good, and 18% excellent. Timothy/Clover stand conditions are 3% poor, 19% fair, 61% good, and 17% excellent. The quality of hay made is 1% very poor, 5% poor, 26% fair, 36% good, and 32% excellent. Pasture conditions are at 14% very poor, 12% poor, 34% fair, 24% good and 16% excellent. Peach conditions are 2% fair, 57% good, and 41% excellent. Apple conditions are 4% poor, 19% fair, 44% good, and 33% excellent.

**Nationwide as of June 26, 2010:** While near-normal temperatures prevailed in areas west of the Rocky Mountains, abnormally warm temperatures dominated the rest of the country during the week, providing ideal harvest conditions for winter wheat and promoting rapid crop development, but at the same time causing heat stress on many reproductive summer crops. Most notably, average temperatures reached 10 degrees or more above normal in areas of the Mississippi Valley and along the mid-Atlantic Coast. Summer storm systems delivered above average precipitation to much of the northern Great Plains, Corn Belt, and Great Lakes region during the week. Elsewhere, continued dry conditions throughout much of the Southeast led to a decline in crop conditions. **Corn:** By week's end, 7 percent of the Nation's corn crop was at or beyond the silking stage, 3 percentage points ahead of last year and 2 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average. Above average temperatures promoted rapid phenological development of the crop in North Carolina, where progress was 30 percentage points ahead of the normal pace. Overall, 73 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 2 percentage points from ratings last week but slightly better than the same time last year. **Soybeans:** Producers had planted 97 percent of the 2010 soybean crop by June 27, slightly ahead of last year but on par with the 5-year average. With the exception of Illinois, Missouri, and North Carolina, where progress had yet to reach 95 percent, planting was complete or nearly complete throughout much of the major soybean-producing regions. Nationally, 93 percent of the soybean crop had emerged by week's end, 3 percentage points ahead of last year but on par with the 5-year average. Blooming was underway by June 27 in all estimating States except Wisconsin. At 9 percent complete, overall blooming progress was 5 percentage points ahead of last year and slightly ahead of the 5-year average. Progress was most advanced in the Delta, where 32 percent or more of the crop was reported at the blooming stage or beyond. Overall, 67 percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 2 percentage points from ratings last week and down slightly from the same time last year. **Winter Wheat:** Nationally, 96 percent of this year's winter wheat crop was at or beyond the heading stage, 2 percentage points behind both last year and the 5-year average. Boosted by the return of near-normal temperatures, 41 percent or more of the crop in Idaho and Montana began heading during the week; however, overall progress in both States remained well behind normal. By June 27, producers had harvested 38 percent of the 2010 winter wheat crop, 5 percentage points ahead of last year but slightly behind the 5-year average. Overall, 64 percent of the winter wheat was reported in good to excellent condition, down slightly from ratings last week but 19 percentage points better than the same time last year.

## Weather Data For Week Ending July 4, 2010

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - July 4, 2010					
	Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
<b>Northwest</b>												
Erie	83	49	66	-4	1.14	1	10.16	-1.09	39	1,179	334	2,027
Franklin	90	45	65	-4	0.05	1	11.88	-0.77	38	1,126	313	1,975
Meadville	87	45	65	-3	0.54	2	12.28	0.07	45	1,070	339	1,913
Mercer	88	46	65	-4	0.50	2	12.49	0.11	45	1,137	326	1,997
Springboro	86	43	63	-8	0.31	2	13.96	3.07	40	981	121	1,781
Warren	87	45	64	-6	1.20	2	10.69	-2.30	36	1,009	225	1,839
<b>North Central</b>												
Bradford Region	82	35	59	-5	0.31	2	10.50	-2.63	38	809	263	1,584
Oswayo	85	36	61	-5	0.15	2	10.96	-1.79	40	800	168	1,562
Kane	85	36	61	-4	0.23	2	10.50	-2.71	37	789	251	1,554
Laporte	83	45	65	-5	0.04	1	8.48	-3.94	48	962	152	1,773
Lock Haven	89	47	68	-2	0.10	1	8.47	-3.51	30	1,239	361	2,127
Port Allegany	86	39	62	-4	0.56	2	10.43	-2.32	38	881	249	1,672
Renovo	89	45	67	-4	0.03	2	9.49	-2.49	35	1,186	308	2,072
Ridgway	86	37	62	-4	0.00	0	10.13	-3.02	38	877	257	1,679
Stevenson Dam	88	43	66	1	0.07	1	9.68	-3.47	36	1,094	474	1,961
Towanda	87	45	65	-4	0.02	1	8.04	-2.27	34	1,029	205	1,880
Wellsboro	84	41	62	-3	0.07	1	8.58	-1.70	35	867	294	1,675
Williamsport	90	47	69	-2	0.07	1	7.97	-4.00	31	1,419	426	2,337
<b>Northeast</b>												
Hawley	87	43	65	-3	0.09	1	9.21	-2.44	32	928	260	1,742
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	88	46	69	-3	0.04	1	6.68	-4.44	29	1,271	341	2,141
Susquehanna	87	46	65	-1	0.30	2	9.30	-3.00	42	999	363	1,839
<b>West Central</b>												
Butler	89	45	66	-4	0.63	2	15.07	2.87	41	1,109	254	1,968
New Castle	92	46	68	-2	0.89	2	12.98	1.81	38	1,231	373	2,105
Slippery Rock	89	44	67	-2	0.91	2	12.02	0.10	43	1,156	386	2,027
<b>Central</b>												
Altoona/Blair	89	46	67	-4	0.01	1	11.18	-0.11	37	1,255	311	2,135
DuBois	85	43	64	-5	0.27	2	11.08	-1.53	41	1,095	301	1,956
Lewistown	92	49	70	-3	0.00	0	8.64	-3.29	34	1,307	263	2,218
Middletown	93	56	74	-1	0.00	0	10.96	-0.87	26	1,545	355	2,476
Prince Gallitzi	91	40	64	-3	0.33	1	11.78	-2.23	39	956	236	1,804
Selinsgrove	94	48	70	-2	0.01	1	5.26	-6.86	24	1,268	310	2,167
State College	89	48	68	-3	0.12	1	7.26	-3.83	33	1,275	349	2,163
<b>East Central</b>												
Allentown-Bethel	91	49	71	-3	0.00	0	9.51	-2.48	28	1,364	290	2,264
Lehighton	87	50	69	-3	0.01	1	10.73	-1.28	30	1,211	187	2,104
Matamoras	87	44	66	-5	0.05	1	9.42	-3.27	30	1,082	168	1,939
Mt_Pocono	84	45	66	1	0.11	2	9.60	-3.74	36	1,016	447	1,848
<b>Southwest</b>												
Pittsburgh/Alle	89	52	68	-3	0.19	2	11.42	-0.28	39	1,454	507	2,347
Indiana_PA	88	45	65	-5	0.32	2	12.17	-1.16	45	1,111	195	1,980
Myersdale	84	39	62	-8	0.04	1	10.20	-2.68	42	847	-3	1,663
Mount Pleasant	88	43	66	-2	0.17	2	11.39	-2.17	36	1,219	461	2,085
Pittsburgh Intl	88	49	68	-4	0.12	2	12.08	1.11	36	1,392	389	2,281
Connellsville	88	46	67	-5	0.49	2	11.10	-1.71	43	1,343	310	2,232
Waynesburg	90	46	66	-4	1.34	2	12.80	1.03	35	1,244	331	2,114
<b>South Central</b>												
Biglerville	95	51	72	-3	0.00	0	7.79	-3.24	23	1,414	237	2,325
Everett	92	44	66	-5	0.07	1	8.77	-1.94	34	1,128	212	2,003
Hanover	95	48	71	-3	0.07	1	6.71	-4.32	28	1,414	237	2,322
Harrisburg_AP	93	52	72	-3	0.00	0	11.38	-0.45	29	1,513	316	2,437
South Mountain	90	45	67	-3	0.02	1	6.86	-4.43	28	1,109	172	1,975
York	93	48	70	-4	0.05	1	6.90	-5.20	29	1,371	191	2,274
<b>Southeast</b>												
Green Lane	92	52	73	2	0.00	0	8.55	-3.01	30	1,417	405	2,337
Hamburg	92	51	72	2	0.00	0	9.75	-4.32	29	1,401	497	2,315
West_Chester	93	48	72	-2	0.10	1	8.36	-4.64	24	1,397	236	2,307
Lancaster	94	52	72	-1	0.00	0	7.13	-4.83	28	1,453	375	2,364
Neshaminy Falls	97	51	75	3	0.10	2	7.34	-5.81	30	1,469	395	2,396
New Holland	94	53	73	0	0.00	0	8.13	-3.83	28	1,453	375	2,363
Philadelphia	96	61	78	4	0.11	1	7.23	-4.42	27	1,808	542	2,755
Philadelphia NE	96	57	77	2	0.12	1	6.57	-5.08	41	1,650	384	2,588
Reading	94	51	74	2	0.00	0	9.86	-3.19	30	1,569	523	2,498
Sellersville	91	48	70	-3	0.01	1	9.68	-1.88	31	1,297	285	2,191
Willow Grove	93	55	75	4	0.00	0	7.27	-5.88	26	1,542	468	2,471

DFN = Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).  
 Precipitation (rainfall or melted snow or ice) and pan evaporation in inches.  
 Precipitation days = days with precipitation of .01 inch or more.  
 Air temperatures in degrees fahrenheit.  
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## REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

*Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.*

**ADAMS COUNTY, Lee Showalter** - It's dry!! There was very little relief from the nice, but hot days. Peach thinning has concluded and most growers are doing touch-up thinning on apples. The trees are not showing stress yet, but will shortly if current conditions continue. Most growers are starting irrigation activities.

**ADAMS COUNTY, Judy A Behney** - Adams County was hot and humid on Monday and Tuesday with temperatures into the 90's. Wednesday and Friday mornings, the temperatures were in the 50's. Daytime temperatures were in the 70's. Over the weekend it is supposed to get back into the 90's. We are starting to see the effects of drought here in the county. If the temperatures go into the 90's again and stay for awhile, it will not be good for our crops. There is no rain forecasted for the future week. Corn is rolling and looking like pineapples throughout the county. Corn and soybeans are growing slowly. Soybeans are being double-cropped after wheat, but some producers are hesitating until some moisture comes. The wheat harvest is underway and quality has been affected by the wet weather last fall/winter. Some of the wheat is going for feed wheat. Hay continues to be made. Fruit crops continue to progress. Tart cherry harvest is about complete with a light crop being harvested. Sweet corn is starting to tassel if planted early. Other vegetables are progressing in the county. Overall the county is ok, but definitely needs rain for all crops to continue over the summer.

**BUCKS COUNTY, Michael Fournier** - No rain for three weeks. Some of the later planted corn is dying. The earliest planted corn is in tassel. Soybeans have stopped growing. Wheat is about 75% harvested, with average yields and good quality. Oats have turned and harvest could start this week.

**CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker** - Top soil is very dry and crops are starting to show stress especially over clay ridges.

**CLARION COUNTY, Tom Tanner** - Many acres of hay has been made this past week. Most farmers are working on the second cutting. The corn, soybean, wheat, and oats appear to be in excellent condition. Some producers are finishing up spraying crops and applying nutrients to corn crop.

**CRAWFORD COUNTY, Ron McCorkle (NRCS)** - Last weekend had tremendous hay making weather! Long hours and hard work have paid off for producers. Corn has taken off with the hot and dry temperatures. Soybeans are still lagging behind a bit for this time of year. Pastures that have been overgrazed are starting to show signs of heat stress. Just an excellent work week.

**DAUPHIN COUNTY, EUGENE SWEIGARD** - Crops are suffering from dry weather.

**FRANKLIN COUNTY, Thomas Kerr** - It continues to be hot and dry. Daytime temps were in the mid 90's, and lows were in the 70's with no rain. A drying wind has caused corn to show signs of moisture stress and even some severe drought conditions on hill tops and shallow shale soils. Fields that were replanted due to early wet and cool conditions are suffering as well. Pastures are now dormant and third cutting alfalfa was shorter than expected. Wheat harvest is nearing completion and yields have been better than average. Heat has knocked down milk production.

**INDIANA COUNTY, DAVID B. OVERDORFF** - Everything is drying out. We need some rain. The leaves on the corn are curling. We had good weather to make hay this past week, but the quality of hay was poor. Everything is too ripe now. We are going to mow down

some hay fields to kill the thistles and dock weeds. The crops are growing but NEED RAIN BAD! Have a safe farm work week!

**LACKAWANNA COUNTY, John Esslinger** - Below normal rainfall is impacting vegetables, especially vine crops in the Central Susquehanna Valley. Growers with irrigation are using it.

**LANCASTER COUNTY, Burell Whitworth Jr.(NRCS)** - Despite heavy rains in some parts of the County last week, the areas that did not get rain, could use some soon. Weather has been good for making hay and harvesting small grain.

**LEBANON COUNTY, Charlene Ziegler** - Rain is badly needed in Lebanon County. Corn and soybean crops are withstanding the dryness but will be affected if there is no rain this week. Third cutting of alfalfa will be sparse.

**LEHIGH COUNTY, Bob Leiby** - Lack of rain has provided excellent opportunities to harvest most of the wheat crop and bring in hay and straw. Excessive heat and no rain in the immediate forecast will cause even more moisture stress to the corn and soybean crop in the week ahead.

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY, Andrew Frankenfield** - It is hot and dry. Corn is beginning to tassel, and soybeans are beginning to flower. Crops are under stress.

**PERRY COUNTY, David L. Swartz** - Extremely dry conditions exist across Perry County.

**SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer** - The heat and dry weather conditions have continued. The quality of the oats, soybeans, and corn has deteriorated further. The re-growth for third cutting of alfalfa is nearly none existent; and the quality of pasture is almost at the same level. The wheat harvest is near completion, with the yields being very good. The harvesting of oats will soon begin. The main activities for the week were haymaking, harvesting wheat, and baling of straw.

**SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY, Willie Keeney** - The past week has seen a lot of dry hay made. Pastures are drying up and corn is curling. We could use some moisture soon.

**TIOGA COUNTY, Pamela Barnes** - We are in dire need of some rain around the county. Hay is being made with the warmer weather but corn leaves are starting to show signs of lack of moisture. A hole dug 12 ft. deep showed how dry we really are. Field work is progressing well with the drier weather, but hay fields are going to need a drink in a week's time.

**UNION COUNTY, James Brubaker** - Soil moisture is very low. Rain will be too late to save some of the crops. More will be in danger if rain does not come soon. Cool season grasses have gone dormant due to the lack of moisture more than high temperatures.

**WESTMORELAND COUNTY, John Lohr** - No rain made for the best hay making of the season. Unfortunately the corn and soybeans are beginning to show some stress from the hot, dry conditions.

**WESTMORELAND COUNTY, Tom Sierzega (NR)** Very hot, dry conditions allowed for hay making in full swing, but is affecting corn and pasture.

**PA Crop Progress for Week Ending July 4, 2010**

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, silk	14	1	3
Corn average height, inches	47	34	39
Barley, harvested	96	80	77
Wheat, turning yellow	99	94	96
Wheat, ripe	80	61	62
Wheat, harvested	58	13	17
Oats, heading or headed	97	90	88
Oats, turning yellow	24	7	14
Oats, ripe	1	0	1
Alfalfa, 2nd cutting	75	42	43
Alfalfa, 3rd cutting	7	1	2
Timothy clover, 1st cutting	92	86	85
Timothy clover, 2nd cutting	10	7	8

**PA Crop Condition for Week Ending July 4, 2010**

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	2	12	28	46	12
Wheat	1	0	10	59	30
Oats	0	4	18	57	21
Soybeans	1	7	28	55	9
Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures stand	0	4	25	53	18
Timothy clover stand	0	3	19	61	17
Quality of hay made	1	5	26	36	32
Pasture	14	12	34	24	16
Peaches	0	0	2	57	41
Apples	0	4	19	44	33

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